Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for use in delivering articles in conjunction with one or more encoders and with a plurality of transceivers along a delivery route, the transceivers configured to process ~~the~~ information stored in the ~~transponder~~ device by ~~an encoder~~ the encoders to both sort and route ~~the articles~~ an article associated with the device during delivery, comprising:

a passive portable, disposable electromagnetic transponder formed on a flexible substrate and configured to be applied to the associated article and further configured to store information regarding at least delivery cost~~, and~~ routing information, and purchase price of the associated article in response to electromagnetic signals received from one or more of the ~~encoder~~ encoders and to communicate the stored information to the transceivers as the transponder and the associated article move along the delivery route upon query ~~therefrom~~ from the transceivers, the stored information received as control signals to control sorting and routing of the articles along the delivery route without reference to a database linked to the transceivers.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A system for use in routing a plurality of ~~deliverable~~ deliverables, the system comprising:

a plurality of passive radio-frequency ~~label~~ labels adapted to be attached to ~~the deliverable~~ associated deliverables and configured to respond to electromagnetic signals from a plurality of transceivers along a delivery route to communicate control signals stored in the labels ~~deliverable~~ regarding ~~the location~~ a destination of ~~the~~ each deliverable for controlling routing of ~~the~~ each deliverable, ~~the plurality of~~ each transceivers configured to process the

control signals and route the deliverable to ~~a desired location~~ the destination without reference to a linked database, wherein at least one transceiver is configured to communicate with a predetermined group of labels such that the deliverables associated with the predetermined group of labels are sorted and routed to a predetermined delivery path and all other deliverables are routed to a default path.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A system for routing a plurality of ~~deliverable~~ deliverables without reference to a linked database, the system comprising:

a plurality of routing devices, ~~at least one~~ a plurality of passive, portable, flexible transponder ~~label~~ labels configured for attachment to ~~the deliverable~~ associated deliverables and configured to store routing information of the ~~deliverable~~ associated deliverables, and a plurality of transceivers along a delivery route associated with the routing devices for controlling the sorting and routing of the deliverables ~~deliverable~~ during delivery in response to electromagnetic signals ~~reflected~~ received from the labels by the plurality of transceivers ~~label~~ and without reference to a ~~linked~~ database linked to the transceivers, the signals representing the stored information, and wherein at least one transceiver is configured to communicate with a predetermined group of transponder labels such that the deliverables associated with the predetermined group of transponder labels are sorted and routed by the associated routing device to a predetermined delivery path and all other deliverables are routed to a default path.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of transceivers is associated with a predetermined routing device.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, further comprising at least one encoding device configured to code the ~~at least one label~~ labels with information regarding at least one from among a delivery destination, a delivery date, a delivery route, information

regarding a sender, information regarding a receiver, information regarding the deliverable, and information regarding delivery cost.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for routing and tracking remote assets, comprising: a plurality of passive transponders, each transponder associated with a respective asset; a plurality of transceivers along a delivery route configured to send signals to the transponder and to receive control signals therefrom regarding delivery information of the associated assets stored in the transponder; a routing device associated with the at least one transceiver to receive control and command signals via the transceiver and to sort and route the assets during delivery without reference to a linked database; and an encoder configured to transmit control signals to the transponder for storage in the transponder, wherein each transceiver is configured to communicate with a predetermined group of transponders such that assets associated with the predetermined group of transponders are sorted and routed to a predetermined delivery path and all other remote assets are routed to a default path.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein each at least one transceiver is integrally formed with the respective routing device.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, further comprising a tracking device for communicating with the transceivers to track the associated remote asset.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of routing and tracking deliverables, comprising:

providing a plurality of flexible, passive, programmable, portable electromagnetic transponders, each transponder associated with a respective deliverable and configured to store routing information;

issuing interrogation signals from a transceiver coupled to a routing device along a delivery path to power a predetermined group of transponders ~~the transponder~~ and to initiate communication of the routing information as control signals to the transceiver;

receiving at the transceiver the control signals from the ~~transponder~~ predetermined group of transponders in response to the interrogation signals; and

controlling the routing device with the control signal to route the ~~deliverable~~ deliverables along the delivery path without reference to a database by the transceiver and the routing device, such that the deliverables associated with the predetermined group of transponders are sorted and routed to a predetermined delivery path and all other deliverables are sorted and routed to a default delivery path.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising an initial step of encoding the transponder with information for use in generating control signals.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising purchasing at least one transponder and encoding the transponder with a purchase price.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising communicating via a device for tracking the location of deliverables with each transceiver to track a location of deliverables.